

**PROGRAMME OF THE COURSE GSC-44**

**A. GENERAL COURSE (25 FEBRUARY - 2 MARCH 2018)**

Saturday 23 or Sunday 24 February 2019: arrival in Geneva

**Monday 25 February Introduction to the 40<sup>th</sup> session of the Human Rights Council**

**Course location: Palais des Nations (main UN building)**  
(‘Pregny Gate’, bus 8 direction ‘OMS’, halt ‘Appia’)

**08.00** Meeting at the UN, ‘Pregny’ Gate to obtain the badges.  
**09.00 - 13.00** Attending the **opening of the 40<sup>th</sup> session of the HR-Council**.  
**15.00 - 16.00** Meeting at the cafeteria & visit of the Palais des Nations.  
**16.15 - 17.30** **Course-1. GHR Briefing on the tools of the HR-Council** (agenda, programme of work, annotated agenda).

**From Tuesday 26 February, all the classes will take place in the Conference Room Caecilia, 18, Rue Schaub, Geneva.**

- tram 14 & 18, Direction ‘Meyrin’ of ‘CERN’, halt ‘Poterie’.
- or trolleybus 3, direction ‘Gardiol’, halt ‘Poterie’.

**Daily planning (except on Tuesday 26 February):**

- Morning classes (08.30 - 12.00): Course
- Afternoons (12.30 - 18.00): attending the HR-Council.

**Tuesday 26 February INTRODUCTION OF THE COURSE: THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM**

**09.00 - 10.00** **Confidential session: the situation in the countries of the participants.**  
**10.30 - 12.00** **Course-2. Introduction to the international system:** international human rights, humanitarian and criminal laws; international relations; IGO’s; UN structure, organs and programmes; HR-Council and its institution building.  
**12.00 - 13.00** **Course-3. The UN and Human Rights. Minority rights on the UN agenda.**  
*Lunch in the Office*  
**14.00 - 15.00** **Course-4. UN human rights standards:** universality of rights, equality, non discrimination; violations; non State actors.  
**15.00 - 16.00** **Course-5. The UN Reform since 1997** (MDG and SDG).  
**16.30 - 18.00** **Course-6. The UN mechanisms and procedures:** Special procedures, treaty bodies & Universal Periodic Review.  
**20.00** *Dinner of the General Course.*

**Wednesday 27 February:**

**08.30 - 09.00** Briefing on the High-Level Segment of the HR-Council.  
**09.00 - 10.00** **Course-7. Introduction to the mechanisms of the Human Rights Council.** Its mandate, special procedures, Universal Periodic Review, Advisory Committee, Working groups, EMRIP, Forums, special sessions).  
**10.30 - 11.30** **Course-8. Course on the Special Procedures.**  
**11.30 - 12.15** **Course 9. How to write communications to the Special Procedures.**

**Thursday 28 February:**

**08.30 - 09.00** Notes and exchanges on the High-Level Segment.  
**09.00 - 10.30** **Course-10.** The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).  
**11.00 - 12.00** **Course-11.** The Universal Periodic Review (UPR).  
**19.00** *Self-made dinner*

**Friday 1 March: *Deadline for paper on human rights patterns in the countries. 1<sup>st</sup> test for the participants (Week-1)***

**08.30 - 09.15** Reports and discussion on debates in the HR-Council.  
**09.30 - 10.30** **Course-12.** The reports of the High Commissioner.  
**11.00 - 12.15** **Course-13.** The UN and Women’s Rights.

**B. COURSE ON THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL (4 – 8 March)**

**Monday 4 March:**

08.30 - 10.00  
10.30 - 12.00

**Course-14.** Reports of the SR on torture and human rights defenders  
**Course-15.** Human Rights defenders and Civil Society.

**Tuesday 5 March:**

08.30 - 09.15  
09.15 - 11.30  
14:00 - 17:30

**Deadline for letters to Special Procedures**  
Analysis of the debates of the previous day in the HR-Council.  
**Course-16. International Humanitarian Law.**  
Walk outside Geneva (location to be confirmed). **Q & A Session.**

**Wednesday 6 March:**

08.30 - 09.15  
08.15 - 10.30  
10.30 - 12.00

Discussing **letters to the Special Rapporteurs.**  
**Course-17. International Criminal Law and the HR-Council.**  
**Course-18.** Human Rights Treaty Bodies.

**Thursday 7 March:**

08.30 - 09.00  
09.15 - 10.30  
  
10.30 - 12.00  
  
19.00 - 22.30

**2<sup>nd</sup> test for the participants**  
**Course-19. Economic, social and cultural rights.** Analysis of the reports of the SR on adequate housing, right to food and ESC rights.  
Discussing **letters to the Special Rapporteurs.**  
  
*Closing (self-made) dinner of the Course. Certificates.*

**Friday 8 March:**

08.00 - 10.15  
10.15 - 12.00  
12.00 – 13.30

**Final morning class**  
**Course-20.** Recapitulation of the Course.  
**Course-21.** GHR Course on Implementation in the Countries.  
Evaluation and Follow-up.

Afternoon:

Private meetings with trainees from the regions.

**Saturday 9 March:**

*Leaving Geneva.*

**Main trainer of the Course:**  
Adrien-Claude Zoller (Switzerland)

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